

IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Sept. 9, 1998—The House received a communication from Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr in conformity with the requirements of title 28, United States Code, section 595(c), submitting substantial and credible information that President William Jefferson Clinton committed acts that may constitute grounds for an impeachment.

Sept. 11, 1998—The House agreed to H.Res. 525, a resolution (reported by the Committee on Rules, **H.Rept. 105-703**) providing for a deliberative review by the Committee on the Judiciary of a communication from an independent counsel, and for the release thereof, and for other purposes. (*363 yeas; 63 nays*). [H.Res. 525 provides 1) for a review by the Committee on the Judiciary of the report of the Independent Counsel to determine whether sufficient grounds exist to recommend to the House that an impeachment inquiry be commenced; 2) that material submitted by the Independent Counsel shall be considered referred to the committee and that the portion of the material consisting of approximately 445 pages comprising an introduction, a narrative, and a statement of grounds shall be printed as a document of the House; 3) that the balance of such material shall be deemed to have been received in executive session but shall be released from that status on September 28, 1998, except as otherwise determined by the committee, and material so released shall immediately be submitted for printing as a document of the House; and 4) procedures for access to executive-session material and conduct of and attendance at meetings of the committee].

Sept. 11, 1998—Executive Communication No. 10849—a letter from Kenneth W. Starr, the Independent Counsel, transmitting a Referral to the United States House of Representatives filed in conformity with the requirements of title 28, United States Code, section 595(c)—referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and printed as **House Document 105-310**.

Sept. 17, 1998—The Committee met in executive session to consider the release of certain documents, records, and materials received from the Independent Counsel. (Votes printed in Committee Print, Serial No. 7).

Sept. 18, 1998—The Committee continued in executive session to consider the release of certain documents, records, and materials received from the Independent Counsel. The Committee agreed to release approximately 2,800 pages of the documents received by the House from the Office of the Independent Counsel (with redactions approved by the Committee and without certain material filed under seal with the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas) and agreed to release the video version of the President's August 17, 1998 testimony before the grand jury. (Votes printed in Committee Print, Serial No. 7).

Sept. 18, 1998—Executive Communication No. 11083—a letter from Kenneth W. Starr, the Office of the Independent Counsel, transmitting appendices to the Referral to the United States House of Representatives pursuant to title 28, United States Code, section 595(c) submitted by the Office of Independent Counsel, September 9, 1998—referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and printed as **House Document 105-311, parts 1 and 2**.

Sept. 21, 1998—The video version of the President's August 17, 1998 grand jury testimony televised and **House Document 105-311** released to the public.

Sept. 25, 1998—The Committee met in executive session to consider redaction of and the withholding of certain documents, records, and materials received from the Independent Counsel on September 9, 1998, in conformity with the requirements of title 28, United States Code, section 595(c), which would otherwise be required to be released on September 28, 1998, pursuant to H.Res. 525. The Committee agreed to release certain pages of the documents received by the House from the Office of the Independent Counsel. (Votes printed in Committee Print, Serial No. 7).

Sept. 28, 1998—Executive Communication No. 11337—a letter from the Committee on the Judiciary releasing the preliminary memorandum of the President of the United States concerning the Referral of the Office of the Independent Counsel and the initial response of the President of the United States to the Referral of the Office of the Independent Counsel ordered printed as **House Document 105-317**.

Sept. 28, 1998—Executive Communication No. 11340—a letter from Kenneth W. Starr, the Office of the Independent Counsel, transmitting supplemental materials to the Referral to the United States House of Representatives pursuant to title 28, United States Code, section 595(c) submitted by the Office of Independent Counsel, September 9, 1998—referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and printed as **House Document 105-316, parts 1-3**.

Oct. 5, 1998—The Committee received a presentation by the Inquiry Staff. The Committee ordered reported to the House an original resolution to authorize an investigation as to whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise its constitutional power to impeach William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States of America (*21 yeas; 16 nays*). [Previously defeated an amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Mr. Boucher (*16 yeas; 21 nays*), and an amendment offered by Mr. Berman (*16 yeas; 21 nays*)]. The Committee adopted Impeachment Inquiry Procedures. (Printed as Committee Print, Serial No. 8).

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- Oct. 7, 1998—Mr. Hyde, Committee on the Judiciary, reported to the House as an original measure, H.Res. 581, a resolution authorizing and directing the Committee on the Judiciary to investigate whether sufficient grounds exist for the impeachment of William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States. (H.Rept. 105-795).
- Oct. 8, 1998—The House agreed to H.Res. 581. (*258 yeas; 176 nays*).
- Nov. 5, 1998—The Committee released “Constitutional Grounds for Presidential Impeachment: Modern Precedents”. (Committee Print, Serial No. 9).
- Nov. 6, 1998—The Committee released “Impeachment—Selected Materials”. (Committee Print, Serial No. 10).
- Nov. 9, 1998—Hearing by the Subcommittee on the Constitution on the “Background and History of Impeachment”. (Hearing, Serial No. 63).
- Nov. 13, 1998—Additional investigative materials received by the Committee from the Office of Independent Counsel in response to a letter sent to the OIC by Chairman Hyde and Ranking Minority Member Conyers inquiring as to whether the OIC intended to send additional information. (Pursuant to Committee rules, such materials were received in executive session).
- Nov. 17, 1998—The Committee released 37 audiotapes (approximately 22 hours edited to reflect redactions agreed upon by the Committee) of conversations between Monica S. Lewinsky and Linda Tripp which were transmitted to the Congress by the Office of Independent Counsel on September 9, 1998. (The written transcripts are contained in House Document 105-316, pages 2478 through 2799).
- Nov. 19, 1998—Hearing by the full Committee. (Testimony from Kenneth W. Starr, Independent Counsel). (Hearing, Serial No. 66).
- Nov. 19, 1998—The Committee met in executive session and authorized the issuance of subpoenas for depositions from Mr. Daniel Gecker (*21 yeas; 16 nays*), Mr. Nathan Landow (*23 yeas; 14 nays*), Mr. Robert Bennett (*21 yeas; 16 nays*), and Mr. Bruce Lindsey (*unanimous consent*). (Motions with respect to going into executive session printed in Hearing, Serial No. 66).
- Nov. 27, 1998—The Committee received responses of President Clinton to 81 questions submitted by the Committee November 5, 1998.
- Dec. 1, 1998—Hearing by the full Committee on the “Consequences of Perjury and Related Crimes”. [Testimony from Ms. Pam Parsons, Dr. Barabara Battalino, The Honorable Gerald B. Tjoflat, The Honorable Charles E. Wiggins, The Honorable A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr., The Honorable Elliot Richardson, Admiral Leon A. Edney, U.S.N. (Ret.), Lieutenant General Thomas P. Carney, U.S.A. (Ret.), Professor Alan Dershowitz, Professor Stephen Saltzburg, and Professor Jeffrey Rosen]. (Hearing, Serial No. 67).
- Dec. 1, 1998—The Committee met and authorized the issuance of a subpoena to Attorney General Janet Reno for certain memoranda and documents relating to the Department of Justice campaign finance investigation; the issuance of a subpoena to Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr for any and all files directly or indirectly concerning John Huang; and the issuance of subpoenas for depositions from The Honorable Louis Freeh, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and from Charles LaBella, former head of the Campaign Financing Task Force. (Considered en bloc: *20 yeas; 15 nays*).
- Dec. 3, 1998—The Committee announced that the Committee will not address allegations involving abuse of campaign finance laws in its impeachment deliberations. (See December 1, 1998, above).
- Dec. 8, 1998—Hearing by the full Committee. (Testimony on behalf of the White House from Gregory B. Craig, Esquire, Assistant to the President and Special Counsel; the Honorable Nicholas Katzenbach, Professor Bruce Ackerman, Professor Sean Wilentz, Professor Bruce H. Beer; the Honorable Elizabeth Holtzman; the Honorable Robert J. Drinan, S.J.; the Honorable Wayne Owens; James Hamilton, Esquire; and Richard Ben-Veniste, Esquire). (Hearing, Serial No. 68).
- Dec. 9, 1998—Hearing by the full Committee. (Testimony on behalf of the White House from Thomas P. Sullivan, Esquire; Richard J. Davis, Esquire; Edward S.G. Dennis, Jr., Esquire; the Honorable William Weld; Ronald Noble, Esquire; and the Honorable Charles F.C. Ruff, Counsel to the President). (Hearing, Serial No. 68).
- Dec. 10, 1998—The Committee met in executive session and voted to release certain materials received and gathered by the Committee in executive session.
- Dec. 10, 1998—The Committee began consideration of articles of impeachment, receiving presentations by Abbe Lowell, Minority Chief Investigative Counsel, and by David Schippers, Chief Investigative Counsel (printed in Committee Print, Serial No. 19) and began hearing opening statements from Members of the Committee (printed in Committee Print, Serial No. 18).
- Dec. 11, 1998—The Committee continued consideration of articles of impeachment (printed in Committee Print, Serial No. 18), hearing remaining opening statements from Members of the Committee. The Committee began mark-up of a resolution containing four articles of impeachment:
- Agreed to Article I—Perjury Before the Grand Jury. (*21 yeas; 16 nays*).
 - Agreed to Article II—Perjury in the Jones Case. (*20 yeas; 17 nays*).
 - Agreed to Article III—Obstruction of Justice. (*21 yeas; 16 nays*).
- Dec. 12, 1998—The Committee continued mark-up of a resolution containing articles of impeachment (printed in Committee Print, Serial No. 18):
- Agreed to Article IV—Abuse of Power. (*21 yeas; 16 nays*). [Previously agreed to an amendment striking certain provisions. (*29 yeas; 5 nays; 3 “present”*)].
- The Committee ordered the four articles of impeachment reported to the House in the form of an original resolution impeaching William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States, for high crimes and misdemeanors.

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Dec. 12, 1998—The Committee failed to order reported to the House an original joint resolution expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the censure of William Jefferson Clinton (*14 yeas; 22 nays 1 "present"*) and subsequently rejected by voice vote a motion to report the joint resolution adversely to the House. (Printed in Committee Print, Serial No. 18).

Dec. 16, 1998—Mr. Hyde, Committee on the Judiciary, reported to the House as an original measure, H.Res. 611, a resolution impeaching William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States, for high crimes and misdemeanors. (H.Rept. 105-830).

Dec. 16, 1998—The Committee released "Constitutional Grounds for Presidential Impeachment: Modern Precedents—Minority Views". (Committee Print, Serial No. 17).

Dec. 18, 1998—The House began general debate on H.Res. 611.

Dec. 19, 1998—The House completed general debate on H.Res. 611. The House considered H.Res. 611:

Agreed to a motion to table a motion to appeal a ruling of the Chair that a motion to recommit H.Res. 611 to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions was not germane. (*230 yeas; 204 nays*).

Agreed to Article I—Perjury Before the Grand Jury. (*228 yeas; 206 nays*).

Disagreed to Article II—Perjury in the Jones Case. (*205 yeas; 229 nays*).

Agreed to Article III—Obstruction of Justice. (*221 yeas; 212 nays*).

Disagreed to Article IV—Abuse of Power. (*148 yeas; 285 nays*).

Dec. 19, 1998—The House agreed to H.Res. 614 appointing and authorizing managers for the impeachment trial of William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States. (H.Res. 614 provides for the appointment of managers, notification of the Senate, and authorization of the managers to take actions as necessary, including funding of through the Committee on the Judiciary or applicable accounts of the House). (*228 yeas; 190 nays*). (Appointed as managers: Representatives Hyde, Sensenbrenner, McCollum, Gekas, Canady, Buyer, Bryant, Chabot, Barr, Hutchinson, Cannon, Rogan, and Graham).

Dec. 19, 1998—The managers on the part of the House presented the adopted articles of impeachment to the Secretary of the Senate for consideration by the Senate in the 106th Congress.